

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

Vehicle Recorder Division
Washington, D.C. 20594

November 22, 2013

Mobile Phone Devices

Specialist's Factual Report By Ben Hsu

1. EVENT SUMMARY

Location: San Francisco, California
Date: July 6, 2013
Aircraft/ID: Boeing 777-200 / HL7742
Operator: Asiana Airlines
NTSB Number: DCA13MA120

On July 6, 2013 at 11:28 am Pacific daylight time, a Boeing 777, registration HL7742, operated by Asiana Airlines as flight 214, struck the seawall short of runway 28L at San Francisco International Airport. The airplane was destroyed by impact forces and fire. Three of the 291 passengers were fatally injured and about 199 were transported to the hospital with injuries. One of the 4 flight crew and 10 of the 12 cabin crewmembers were injured. The flight was a regularly scheduled passenger flight from Incheon International Airport, Seoul, Korea, and was operated under the provisions of 14 Code of Federal Regulations Part 129. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed at the time of the accident.

2. DETAILS OF DEVICE INVESTIGATION

The Safety Board's Vehicle Recorder Division received the following devices:

Device: Apple iPhone 5
Device Serial Number: F2XJV087DTWD

Device: Apple iPhone 5
Device Serial Number: DNTK267BDTWF

Both devices were recovered by on-scene NTSB personnel from the passenger cabin of the aircraft. The devices arrived with minor impact damage. Data on the devices were imaged using laboratory forensic hardware and software.

2.1. Apple iPhone 5 Device Description

The Apple iPhone 5 is a touchscreen smartphone capable of voice calls, text messaging, email, photo/video recording, and many other functions depending on the specific application(s) loaded. Data is stored on non-volatile¹ memory and may include call logs, text messaging logs, photos, videos, and location information. The amount

¹ Non-volatile memory is semiconductor memory that does not require external power for data retention.

and types of data stored varies based on the device's software version and configuration.

2.1.1. Apple iPhone 5 Data Description

Both devices were analyzed using a forensic software package. No accident-related data was found on either device.